



the Breeze

Official news from the City of **portland** the
of possibilities.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

For a complete list of Christmas on the Coast events, visit the CITY SPOTLIGHT section on the PortlandTX.com homepage.

Parade of Lights & Christmas Tree Lighting
Portland City Hall Complex
Mon., Dec. 2, 6 p.m.
For details, call 361.777.4670.

Holiday "Ice" Skating
Portland City Hall Complex
Mon., Dec. 2 - Sat., Jan. 4
Mon.-Thu., 3-9 p.m.; Fri.-Sat.,
3-10 p.m. (Ticket sales end at 9 p.m.);
Sun., 1-4 p.m.
For details, call 361.777.4500.

Christmas in Portland
Portland Community Center
Sat., Dec. 14, 5-8 p.m.
For details, call 361.777.4670.

Santa at the Library
(Including "Touch a Truck")
Bell/Whittington Public Library
Tue., Dec. 17, 10 a.m.
For details, visit their Facebook page.

Noon Year's Eve for Seniors
Portland Community Center
Tue., Dec. 31, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
For details, call 361.777.4670.

For information on all the programs offered through the Senior Center, Bell/Whittington Library, and Parks & Recreation check out the [Program Guide at PortlandTX.com](#).

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NEW EVENT OFFERS HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES ALL SEASON

The City of Portland is bringing holiday cheer throughout the Christmas Season with its new **Christmas on the Coast** event. Slated to begin on Monday, Dec. 2, and run through Saturday, Jan. 4, Christmas on the Coast will offer holiday-themed activities through the New Year.

Christmas on the Coast is a blend of Portland's traditional holiday events, like Christmas in Portland and the Chatwork Christmas Tour of Homes, with new events like Glow Portland and Holiday "Ice."

The focal point of the event will be Holiday "Ice," an outdoor "ice" skating

rink. Open daily starting each afternoon throughout Christmas on the Coast, the 40'X50' rink will feature special nights like Luau Night and Ugly Sweater Night. Tickets are \$5 for unlimited skating for ages 8 to 59, including skates. For those under 8 or those 60 and better, skating is free. For G-PISD students, faculty, and staff skating is \$2 during the school holiday break, with a G-PISD ID or report card. Tickets must be purchased at the Fitness Center in the Portland Community Center. Skates will be available in the tent, located

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HOLIDAY, TRASH & RECYCLE SCHEDULE

Christmas: City offices, including City Hall, the Community Center, Aquatic Center, Bell/Whittington Library, and Senior Center, will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24 and Wednesday, Dec. 25. There will be no trash or recycle collection on Tuesday, Dec. 25. The makeup day will on Saturday, Dec. 28.

New Year's Day: City offices, including City Hall, the Portland Community Center, Aquatic Center, Senior Center, and the Bell Whittington Library, will be closed Wednesday, Jan. 1. (The Community Center will close at 5 p.m. on New Year's Eve.) There will be no trash or recycle collection on Wednesday, Jan. 1. The makeup day will on Saturday, Jan. 4.

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next to the skating rink.

Seeing Christmas lights and decorations is a favorite holiday tradition for families everywhere. Glow Portland, one of the new events in Christmas on the Coast, honors that tradition with a decorating competition of homes and neighborhoods across Portland. Glow Portland welcomes everyone to tour the holiday lights and displays throughout the holiday season. (See the adjacent *Glow Portland* story for information on participating in *Glow Portland*.)

Christmas on the Coast kicks off Monday, Dec. 2, at 6 p.m. with the Parade of Lights, followed by a traditional tree lighting ceremony on the grounds of the Portland City Hall Complex. Other events include visits with Santa Claus at the Library, a toy drive, free Christmas Eve and Christmas Day “ice” skating, and New Year’s celebrations.

Christmas in Portland, which is now a part of Christmas on the Coast, happens on Saturday, Dec. 14, at the Portland Community Center. It will be the first event in the newly renovated Community Center. For a complete list of Christmas on the Coast events and activities, visit the City website at PortlandTX.com, under City Spotlight on the homepage.

WINTER SEWER RATES

The City of Portland uses the winter months’ average of December, January, and February for sewer calculations. Water usage during these months is used to set residential sewer rates for the coming year, so be aware of any unnecessary water usage, including dripping faucets or leaking toilets. These simple water conservation tips are useful throughout the year, but can result in substantial savings when instituted during the winter months:

- Pay attention to dripping sounds and repair any leaks
- Only run the dishwasher with a full load
- Don’t leave water running when it’s not being used
- Turn off the faucet when brushing teeth

CHATWORK CIVIC CLUB CHRISTMAS TOUR OF HOMES SLATED FOR DEC. 7

The annual Christmas Tour of Homes will be held Saturday, Dec. 7. Presented by the Chatwork Civic Club, proceeds from the event benefit the Portland community.

Home tours will be conducted from 1 - 4 p.m. A raffle, holiday bake sale, refreshments, and entertainment will be offered from 1 - 5 p.m. at Northshore Country Club, located at 801 East Broadway. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased in advance from any Chatwork Club member or at the Country Club on the day of the event. For more information, visit the Chatwork Civic Club on Facebook.

GLOW PORTLAND

Think you have holiday spirit? Let it show, let it show, let it show.

Be a part of Christmas on the Coast by participating in **Glow Portland**. Holiday decorations are one of the best parts of the Christmas Season. Deck the halls with your favorite decorations—lights, garland, snowmen, wisemen, or Jolly ‘Ol St. Nick—and be part of the Christmas on the Coast’s Glow Portland Christmas lights competition.

To participate: Once your halls are decked and ready, post a photo of your decorated home or neighborhood, including the address, to the Glow Portland EVENT page on the City of Portland’s Facebook page or send the address and photo by email to enews@portlandtx.com.

Glow Portland categories are: Best Holiday Lights (individual residence), Most Humorous (individual residence), and a Best Block category for neighborhoods. Homes must be decorated by Dec. 12. The Chatwork Club will judge that night, so be sure all the holiday lights are on and ready to go!

HOLIDAY KIDZ DAYZ

Holiday Kidz Dayz is a full-day program for children in kindergarten through 6th grade. It’s offered during school breaks to provide parents with childcare during the holidays. Dates are Dec. 23; Dec. 26-27; Dec. 30; Jan. 2-3, and Jan. 6. Hours are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Holiday Kidz Dayz will be held at T.M. Clark Elementary, located at 2250 Memorial Parkway.

Parents can register their child for a single day or multiple days. The cost is \$20/day per child. Those who book one week in advance can get a \$15/day per child rate.

For more information, call Parks and Recreation at 361.777.4670 or [register online from the homepage of PortlandTX.com](http://PortlandTX.com), under City Spotlight.